

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 DRC-01 /127 W

----- 009051

R 040547Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1834

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 3885

GENEVA FOR MEPCDEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, JO, IS

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORTS ON ISRAELI OBSTRUCTION OF
JORDANIAN BRIDGE CROSSINGS

1. JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED DAILY AR-RAYY
JULY 3 GAVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE WITH PHOTOGRAPHS
TO CLAIM THAT ISRAELI BORDER AUTHORITIES REFUSED
TO ALLOW OVER 4,000 JORDANIAN WEST BANK DWELLERS
CROSS BRIDGE FROM JORDAN, DESPITE FACT THAT THEY
HAD NECESSARY ISRAELI-ISSUED CROSSING-AND-VISIT
PERMITS. ACCORDING TO ACCOUNT, ISRAELIS CLOSED
BRIDGE AND LEFT "THOUSANDS", INCLUDING MANY WOMEN
AND CHILDREN, TO SWELTER IN HOT SUN. ACCORDING
TO PRESS ACCOUNT, DELAY WAS CAUSED BY ISRAELI
INSISTENCE ON LENGTHY SECURITY SEARCHES. PRESS
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CLAIMED THAT 1500 ARABS PER DAY ARRIVE AT BRIDGE CROSSINGS BUT

ONLY 10-15 BUS LOADS ARE ALLOWED TO CROSS.

2. AR-RAYY ALSO REPORTS THAT "SPECIAL COURT TO PREVENT SALE OF PROPERTIES TO ENEMY" (WHOSE RECENT ESTABLISHMENT PREVIOUSLY REPORT) TODAY PUBLISHED ITS FIRST SUMMONS, WHICH REQUIRES MUHAMMED ZUHDI SARANDA OF JERUSALEM TO STAND TRAIL. PRESS STATED SARANDA WILL BE TRIED IN ABSENTIA IF HE DOES NOT APPEAR AND HIS JORDANIAN PROPERTY CONFISCATED,

3. COMMENT: WITH RESUMPTION OF USUAL HEAVY SUMMER TRAFFIC OF ARABS VISITING FAMILIES ON WEST BANK, GOJ SEEMS GENUINELY CONCERNED OVER LOG-JAM GOJ HAS ALSO REAISED THIS SUBJECT WITH EMBASSY, POINTING OUT HARDSHIPS THAT BRIDGE CROSSING DELAYS ARE CAUSING TO ARAB VISITORS TO WEST BANK. PICKERING

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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